



May, 2008

Volume 4, Issue 5

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**FROM THE EDITOR...****IN THIS ISSUE**

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print pages.

In this issue:...

A bit of a light issue this month... We're kind of like those TV "reality" shows... If no one contributes to the newsletter, well, then nothing gets published.

This is one of those months!

To add to the boredom, the bands have been as flat as that Mothers Day pancake that Rich N7ANF will be preparing on May 18th...

Yepper, Flat as a pancake!



To the left, Mrs. WG7X (Sue) with her I-Was-There photo from our visit to the Grand Canyon. We went down there to see the sights. All I can say about the "Grand Canyon" is that it is a mighty big hole in the ground!

I would also venture a guess that the best way to see it would be from one of those canyon float trips. Not too much can be seen from ground level looking down into the canyon.

The Mrs. and I did take one of the sightseeing

Airplane trips, and that was pretty satisfying, if a bit bumpy. It was not until we were safely back on the ground that Sue admitted that she almost had to make use of the airsick bag so conveniently placed in the seat backs.

I never noticed a problem because I travel on those little puddle-jumper type planes all the time, and it was business as usual from my perspective!

CUI es 73 de Gary WG7X

## Radio Club of Tacoma

### **RADIO CLUB OF TACOMA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES 23 April, 2008**

The 23 April 2008 monthly membership meeting was held at the Pierce County Library Administration Building. Vice-President Jill Palmer, K7JIL, called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

Officers and board members present:

Vice President: Jill Palmer K7JIL

Treasurer: Gary McFadden K7UPG

Board Member: Alan Lentz W7AML

Board Member: Bob Purdom AD7LJ

Board Member: Frank Palmer AC7JY

*A sign-in sheet with the names of members and guests is attached. There were 48 names on the attendance roster.*

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Led by Vice-President Jill Palmer.

#### **INTRODUCTIONS:**

Self introductions were completed. Jill recognized new ham, Steve Anthony, KE7TEX. Welcome, Steve.

#### **HEALTH WELFARE OR SILENT KEY:**

Rick Rose would like the "sunshine girl" to send a card from the RCT to Bob Churchward, W7RXS, congratulating him on his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday which was celebrated on April 14<sup>th</sup>.

#### **SECRETARY'S REPORT:**

In lieu of Secretary Larry Watson's absence, Pat Wingerter, WT7N, recorded minutes and reported correspondence. Rick Rose read an email from new technician, Phillip Tim McNally (no call yet) a handy-ham who is looking for help with Echolink hardware.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Rick Rose, KE7EMW**, reported MEMBERSHIP for 2008 at 286.

## Logger's Bark May 2008

**Bob Purdom, AD7LJ**, reported FIELD DAY will be held on the Western State Hospital grounds again this year on June 26-27. Sign-up sheets were handed out. Planning meetings will be coming up soon. He is NOT ordering shirts and pins enmasse as in the past for the club but they are available from the ARRL.ORG website for anyone interested in obtaining one.

**Bob, AD7LJ**, also reported that HAMFEST planning is proceeding well and everything is on schedule.

**Nick Winter, K7MO**, mentioned the LOGGER'S CERTIFICATE. After you work ten (10) members of the RCT (in good standing) and submit the info to Nick, he will send you a certificate from the RCT. After addition members are worked you will receive an endorsement.

**Rich Manson, N7ANF**, announced MOTHER'S DAY BREAKFAST will be May 18<sup>th</sup> at the RCT clubhouse. (time?) As in the past, eggs, ham, hotcakes and beverages will be served for free but donations are gladly accepted. Jill also added that this is a very nice event, a lot of work is put into preparing the clubhouse for it and encourages members to attend it and bring their mothers and/or grandmothers.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Al Williams, K7PUC**, has 3 Force 12 antennas for sale; 2 element 40M, 3 element 20M, and a 9 element 2M. They are still new, in the box never been used. He will sell them for 75% of the price Force 12 is asking for them.

**Pat Wingerter, WT7N**, announced the ARDF aka bunny hunt coming up Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at Pt. Defiance Park's 5 mile drive Gig Harbor view point area starting at 1:30 PM. This is open to anyone; you don't need a license to participate. Equipment will be available if you don't have your own. Bring your kids, friends and family and have an afternoon of fun.

**PROGRAM:**

**Rich Patrick, KR7W**, presented a prize to Al Churchill, AC7BU, for answering the question to the puzzle in the BARK correctly. His prize was a package of RCT DK Flakes. Everyone got a good chuckle from this!

Rich's program was A History of Amateur Radio from 1900 to 1927. This was a scintillating program which presented tidbits of radio history such as: Marconi did not invent the radio but he did save amateur radio from extinction in 1906. It was also revealed what really went on in the radio room of the Titanic as it was sinking which developed into the Radio Act of 1912. It was revealed that the root of commercial radio broadcasting was with Amateur Radio operators at the microphone. Interference issues brought forward the Radio Act of 1927 which defined Amateur Radio with laws. A few questions were asked and discussion ensued. Thanks, Rich, for the intense research and long hours of preparation you spent on this to make it a great presentation!

**Door Prize:**

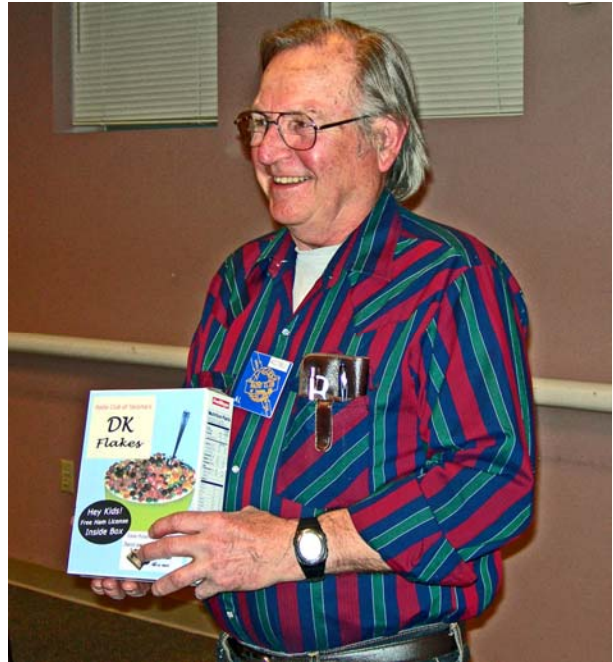
A wire stripper was won by Glenn Mattison, WA7LON.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 PM.



**June 1941**

**TRIVIA PRIZE WINNER!  
AL, AC7BU**



AL, AC7BU proudly shows off the prize he received for correctly answering last months question on the meter placement in a circuit.

His prize?

A box of the much coveted "DK Flakes" from the folks at ARL (Acme Research Labs)

Good Job, AL!



## ARRL Field Day T-Shirts and Pins

The ARRL Team has done a great job of designing this year's Field Day T-Shirts and Pins and it's time to start "gearing up!" We learned last year that you need to order EARLY to ensure that your size is still available. The club will NOT be doing a combined order this year. However, the ARRL website makes it very easy to place your order online.

Simply use this link <http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=NO-1324>.

If you prefer, you can always place your order **Toll-Free** at **1-888-277-5289**

*The State of Washington**Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, over 25,000 amateur radio operators in Washington State pursue their passion in amateur radio communications; and

**WHEREAS**, amateur radio operators volunteer and contribute their time, skills, equipment, and energy to help those in need; and

**WHEREAS**, amateur radio operators provide emergency communications for public safety organizations, hospitals, businesses, and the public at-large during emergencies and disasters within the state of Washington; and

**WHEREAS**, government agencies and businesses support state and local efforts to carry out amateur radio communications missions; and

**WHEREAS**, amateur radio operators in Washington will hone their communication skills during a twenty-four hour simulated emergency Field Day on June 28-29, 2008; and

**WHEREAS**, amateur radio operators deserve our recognition and gratitude for the many services they provide each year;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Christine O. Gregoire, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim June 23-29, 2008, as

*Amateur Radio Week*

in Washington State, and I urge all citizens to join me in recognizing the importance of amateur radio to our health and safety and thanking the thousands of amateur radio operators we can rely on during emergencies or disasters that may occur within the state.



Signed this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2008

*Christine O. Gregoire*  
Governor Christine O. Gregoire





Above is Bob Heselberg 's mobile ham shack! Bob was going to use it in the 7th Area QSO party. This is a contest where everyone tries to work those of us here in the 7th call area.

Bob will report back on how well his maritime mobile shack did in the test!



Spring is on the way?!?! Can't tell from here!

Dateline: May 2008

## Sparky's "View from the Shack"

*This and that around the club, and more...*

*Sparky's welcomes comments, ideas and letters to "The RCT View", but reserves the right to procrastinate, and generally ignore social engineering or cranky inputs. Editorial philosophy — While there occasionally may be reason and rhyme as we go along, the goal is to ramble through the many and varied activities of the Club and its members as we take another trip around the sun.*

- What Happened to Spring
- Fox or Bunny It's your call/hunt
- Attaboys
- Coming up... Picnic, Field Day and Hamfest

### What happened to "Spring?"

Sparky's been waiting, not so patiently for the warmer weather to check out the antennas, feed lines and put up some new ones. The Weather gods have torpedoed that plan, and as I sit here

watching the trees bend in the wind and the rain on the way, I long for the warm sunny days that promote keeping the shack outside stuff in good operating condition. OK, so I'm a wimp when it comes to FYBO work, but what is, is...

### Fox or Bunny, It's Your call/hunt

You should have heard by now about the ARRL's annual Foxhunt, and the Club's participation. If not, and If the BARK makes an early May appearance, dust off your attenuator, HT, tape measure Yagi, pack a sandwich and truck on down to Point Defiance Park, the Gig Harbor Overview turnout to join the intrepid hunt, and of course socialize. There will be loaner equipment and bring the kids, or friends, a license is not required to participate in the event

### Attaboys:

As usual, Acme Construction is busily at work improving the Clubhouse. If you haven't noticed, you should... Recently KR7W and the crew have almost finished the East side Library shelving, and soon all those documents now in hiding in the eaves will once again be out to peruse. There's even a new hand crafted table for sitting and reading .

### Coming up Picnic, Field Day and Hamfest

If warmer weather ever comes to us, and it should, we should be ready for the summer activities. Sparky has learned that this year's W7DK at the Beach, annual **Kirkreit Picnic** will be held at Spanaway Park on Saturday June 14th. Early planning is underway for this year's **Field Day** which will be held at the Western Washington State Hospital grounds (same as last year), the last full weekend in June. Commander Bob is pouring over plans and has already posted our location to the ARRL field day finder website..

The date and location for this year's Hamfest have been established. The fest

will be at Bethel Junior High on 9 August, same location as last year, with Commander Bob picking up the leadership role this year. Bob will be looking for folks to make this year's fest better than ever.

### View from the Shack...

Sparky notes — Kudos to Pete KK7QW, Worth W7WG and the others who are promoting slow and medium speed CW by operating a weekly net for beginners... And to Ken N7ELF who is doing similar operating work with PSK 31, an exercise to encourage PSK 31 operations and learn the ropes in this fun digital applications.

#### *The Disclaimer...*

*These articles are intended to browse through recent activities and coming events of possible interest to the Radio Club of Tacoma members. It will of course by design and intent be informal and attempt to record some of the Club's activities that might otherwise go unnoticed.*

Sparky

It's not whether you win or lose, but how you place the blame.

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## VE REPORT John AC7WW

Nine Volunteer Examiners graded 28 exam elements from fourteen candidates on Tuesday, April 8th. Sixteen elements were passed. Eight candidates earned their Technician license. Three amateurs upgraded to General and two upgraded to Extra Class. One candidate failed to either get a new license or upgrade.

Thanks to the following volunteer examiners for their time:

Joe, W7RQ  
Jon, AD7AW  
Steve, AD7AB

Al, AC7BU  
Jim, N7RHX  
Roland, WQ7P

Rich, KK7VH  
Bob, AD7LJ  
Bill, AD7QI



## Bunny Alert

by Alan N7OMS

### Attention! Attention!

The Radio Club of Tacoma has is-

sued a **chartreuse alert**. Jacob and Fluffy are missing! Yes, that's right, Pat's WT7N bunnies are missing. She reports they were last seen at Point Defiance Park attending the Easter "Bunny Hop." Eyewitness reports claim that both bunnies were seen hanging with members of the "North Slope Rabbits", a group known to use CW. This group has been growing since Morse Code was outlawed. All is not lost however. Rich KR7W of ARL labs has surgically installed two meter radio transmitters into each bunny. We need everyone to converge on Point Defiance Park with their RDF gear to help with the search.

OK, OK, there are no lost bunnies and that's only a rumor that Rich has taken up surgery at ARL labs. We still need everyone to come on out to **Point Defiance Park's 5 Mile Drive Gig Harbor picnic site on May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008**. CQ Magazine is holding the eleventh annual foxhunting weekend. They



ALAN N7OMS



are asking ham operators and radio clubs to conduct hidden transmitter hunts the weekend of May 10th & 11<sup>th</sup>.

The Radio Club of Tacoma's RDF group has decided that this is a good event to begin their Fox Hunting season for 2008. Everybody is invited to attend. **The hunts will start at 1:30 PM and there will be refreshments at the end of the hunt.**

Foxhunting is good fun and it also has an important place in ham radio because of its uses for public service. RDF skills are called upon to find Emergency Locator Transmitters from airplanes and lost hikers equipped with beacons. It's also used to track sources of electronic interference. So plan to attend, we will have gear that can be borrowed and plans for RDF gear can be found on the Radio Club of Tacoma's web site. You will also see more information in this issue of the Bark.



Foto from 2006 DK at the Spanaway Beach Picnic. Art Jury, Mick KK7QS, and Nick K7MO get Hidden Transmitter Hunting advise from Art.



**Satchquatch Hunter's Net  
Every Saturday 1700 UTC  
14.337 MHz USB**



## Amateur Radio Magazine

### Announces... 11th Annual Foxhunting Weekend May 10 + 11, 2008 (Sat & Sun)

The Radio Club of Tacoma will participate in this event. The Foxhunt (or Bunny Hunt) will take place at **Pt Defiance Park's 5 Mile Drive Gig Harbor Picnic** area beginning at **1:30 PM on Saturday May 10**. A ham license is not required, so bring your kids or grandkids to share in the fun. Equipment will be on hand to borrow. This event will be practice for the Club Picnic in June. This event will (most likely) be written up in CQ Magazine. See article in this issue of The Bark and the club's website: [www.w7dk.org](http://www.w7dk.org)



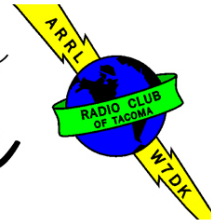
# Happy Birthday

# May

<b>Day</b>	<b>Full Name</b>	<b>Call</b>	<b>RCT Number</b>
2	Anna Winter	<b>K7ANA</b>	2228
2	Bob Vandenheuvel	<b>KE7ECQ</b>	2281
2	Bruce Mackey	<b>KD7UAQ</b>	2180
2	Gary McFadden	<b>K7UPG</b>	2197
2	John Arena	<b>KB7TGE</b>	1588
3	Al Churchill	<b>AC7BU</b>	1988
6	Heidi Holme		2274
6	Roddney Saucedo	<b>WV7O</b>	2156
8	Andy Evancho	<b>WA7JGO</b>	2081
10	Dick Giguere	<b>KA7FXQ</b>	2087
10	Phil Lux	<b>KE7PGH</b>	2339
14	Nick Olson	<b>N7BCV</b>	692
17	Herb Young	<b>KB7SRN</b>	2204
18	Bob Reed	<b>KE7JFV</b>	2313
18	Mike Wingren	<b>AB7CQ</b>	2144
19	Rob Lee	<b>K7TGU</b>	1550
20	Chris Jensen	<b>W7YX</b>	623
21	Wade Palmer	<b>WA7OHG</b>	1783
25	Brett Erwin	<b>NU7DX</b>	2361
25	Kathleen Nace	<b>N0EYK</b>	1352
25	Thomas Landers	<b>AD7RE</b>	2363
26	Gary Pankey	<b>KE7ETD</b>	2277
27	Dick Ryan	<b>W7RGD</b>	310
27	Scott Peterson	<b>KA7IOX</b>	982
29	Steve Russman	<b>WB7WUX</b>	870
31	Mary Kelley	<b>W7SKR</b>	317



*The Radio Club of Tacoma's*  
**Logger's Bark**



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### Club Officers

President: Randy Thompson AD7FF, 253-476-9249, ad7ff@hotmail.com  
 Vice Pres: Jill Palmer, K7JIL, 253-539-7772, hamtalker2@msn.com  
 Secretary: Larry Watson, KD4VOM, rwatson@chirpmail.com  
 Treasurer: Gary McFadden, K7UPG k7upg@netzero.com

### 5 Board Members (listed in no particular order)

Al Lentz, W7AML alentz@centurytel.net  
 Frank Palmer, AC7JY ac7jy@msn.com  
 Al Burleson K7HW burleca@mashell.com  
 Bob Purdom, AD7LJ, 253-606-2636, lcdrbob@hotmail.com  
 Gary Kohtala K7EK gary.k7ek@gmail.com

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 Reporters: The members of the Radio Club of Tacoma...  
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**The Fine Print:** The Logger's Bark is published once a month for the membership of The Radio Club of Tacoma or interested ham radio enthusiasts. The Bark is delivered by PDF file on the club's website: [www.w7dk.org](http://www.w7dk.org). RCT Members with limited/no internet access may request that a condensed, paper copy be mailed to their home address. Please contact Rick Rose – KE7EMW at (253) 581-7673 or [RCT-Membership@comcast.net](mailto:RCT-Membership@comcast.net) to request The Logger's Bark home-delivery.

**ADVERTISE in the BARK:** \$60.00 full page, \$30.00 half page, \$15.00 quarter page, \$5.00 business card size. These charges offset the publishing and USPS mailing costs.

**Want / For Sale** ads are free to members. The Logger's Bark does not verify or guarantee statements in the Want For Sale listings. Permission is granted to use any or all portions of articles published in The Loggers Bark if Credit line is included in the article.

**Membership Info:** FULL (licensed) and ASSOCIATE (non licensed) is \$30 per calendar year. \$25 for Licensed Seniors (65 and over). Licensed family members at same address pay \$15 each for the first two and are free for the third, fourth, and so on. Fulltime students, licensed or non licensed, up to age 25 are \$15 per year. Note: fees are applicable for the calendar year: Jan to Dec. Lifetime membership is 20 times the yearly fee you are eligible for.. Lifetime memberships are calculated based on the FULL and ASSOCIATE rates.

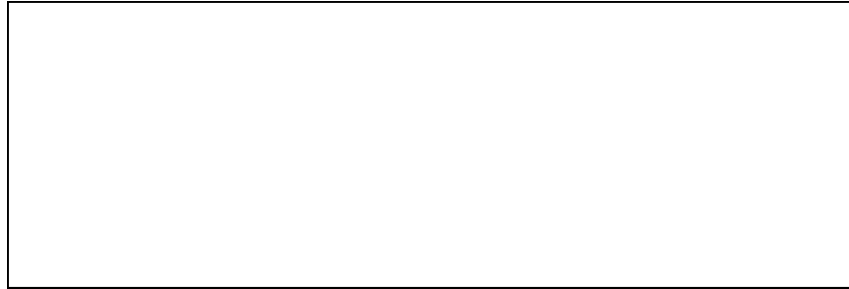
### RADIO CLUB REPEATERS

Central Tacoma: 147.280 + PL=103.5 RCT Packet 144.91  
 Crawford Mountain (SE Thurston County) 147.380 + PL=103.5  
 Central Tacoma 440.625 + PL=103.5



**THE LOGGER'S BARK**  
Radio Club of Tacoma, Inc.  
P.O. Box 11188  
Tacoma, WA 98411

**TO RCT MEMBER:**



# MAY 2008 EVENTS

**Club Meetings:** Wednesdays May 14th and 28th at the library Administration building at 7:30 PM, 112th & Waller road. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Board Meeting,** Wednesday May 7th, 7:30 PM at the. Clubhouse - All members welcome.

**License Testing** - Tuesday May 13th 7:00 PM at the RCT clubhouse.

**BARK deadline** - Last week-end of every month.. PLEASE get articles, columns, etc. in by that time!

- Support OUR club - Attend meetings, volunteer, Elmer.
- Check in to the 2-meter Net every Tuesday night at 7:30, on 147.28. Hear additional information on programs and other events.
- Check in on the 10 Meter Net every Sunday evening, 8 PM, on 28.375 MHz USB